

SAMUEL J. WELLBORN

DIRECT 803 231.7829 DIRECT FAX 803 231.7878

swellborn@robinsongray.com

January 16, 2020

Litigation + Business

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd Chief Clerk / Executive Director Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100 Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Its

Rate Schedules and Increase Rates

Docket No. 2019-290-WS

Dear Ms. Boyd:

In accordance with the Transmittal Letter issued on January 6, 2020 in the above-referenced proceeding, please find attached for filing the Affidavit of Mailing of the Notice of Public Night Hearings.

Kind regards,

Sam Wellborn

SJW:tch

Enclosure

c w/enc: Parties of Record (via email)

Donald H. Denton, President (via email)

Dante DeStefano, Financial Planning & Analysis Manager (via email)

AFFIDAVIT OF MAILING

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF SEMINOLE

Before me, the undersigned authority, authorized to administer oaths and take acknowledgments, personally appeared Renee Fulmer, who, after being duly sworn on oath, did depose on oath and say that she is the Billing Services Specialist of Utilities, Inc., the sole shareholder of Blue Granite Water Company ("Utility"), and on or before January 13, 2020, she did send by regular U.S. Mail, a copy of Notice of Public Night Hearings, to all Blue Granite Water Company water distribution and sewer customers.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NAUGHT.

Print Name: Renee Fulmer Print Title: Billing Specialist

Sworn to and subscribed before me this <u>15</u> day of January 2020 by Renee Fulmer, who is personally known to me or has produced ______ as identification.



Print Name: Ann M. Raponi

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: 7/12/21

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

CLERK'S OFFICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC NIGHT HEARINGS

DOCKET NO. 2019-290-WS

Application of Blue Granite Water Company for Approval to Adjust Rate Schedules and Increase Rates

On October 2, 2019, Blue Granite Water Company ("Blue Granite" or the "Company") filed with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") an application requesting authority to adjust its rate schedules and to increase its rates ("Application"). The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §58-5-240 and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-712(4)(A) and 103-512(4)(A).

In its Application, the Company states that recent major capital projects needed to improve service to customers, increases in costs for third-party purchased water and wastewater treatment, increases in property taxes related to capital investment, and updates to depreciation rates, have made it necessary to request a net increase in retail revenues. The Company has invested approximately \$23 million in its water and wastewater infrastructure since the last rate case, filed in November 2017. Blue Granite's request includes a one-time credit to customers resulting from the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in the amount of \$10.64. Blue Granite also proposes to implement annual rate adjustment procedures for Purchased Water Charges and Purchased Wastewater Treatment Charges, and for authority to continue to defer the Company's purchased water and wastewater treatment expenses (above or below the amounts reflected in rates) caused by changes in third party provider rates, until such expenses are reflected in rates. The Company also makes other requests in its Application, including seeking authority to defer costs related to the decommissioning of certain assets, to establish a storm reserve fund, to include in its tariff the treatment of taxes on contributions in aid of construction, to change its pumping charge for solids interceptor tanks to reflect actual costs, and to implement an opt-in "Round Up" program to assist customers in need.

Blue Granite seeks to recover additional annual revenues resulting from third-party purchased water and wastewater treatment, as well as revenues resulting primarily from investments in infrastructure needed to serve customers, for a total requested annual revenue increase of \$11,731,803. This results in an annual revenue increase for Service Territory 1 Water of \$3,636,850, for Service Territory 2 Water of \$1,939,107, and for Consolidated Sewer of \$6,155,846. Blue Granite also proposes to separately bill for and receive annual revenues to recover third-party purchased water and wastewater treatment costs.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Public Service Commission, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817 and Commission Order Nos. 2019-804, 2019-830, 2019-831, 2019-825, 2019-827 and 2019-829, has scheduled public hearings in response to the above referenced docket. The following hearings will begin at <u>6:00 p.m.</u> at the locations as follows:

Monday, January 27, 2020, Town of Lexington Municipal Complex, Conference Center, 111 Maiden Lane, Lexington, SC 29072

Thursday, January 30, 2020, at the Irmo Municipal Building, 7300 Woodrow Street, Irmo, South Carolina 29063.

Monday, February 3, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. - Union City Hall, 101 Sharpe Avenue, Union, SC 29379

Thursday, February 6, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – Anderson County Council Chambers, 101 S. Main Street, Anderson, SC 29624

Thursday, February 13, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – Greenville County Council Chambers, 301 University Ridge, Suite 2400, Greenville, SC 29601

Thursday, February 20, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – York County Council Chambers, 6 South Congress Street, York, SC 29745

Thursday, February 27, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – Public Service Commission of South Carolina, Saluda Building, Hearing Room, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, SC 29210

Persons who wish to testify before the Public Service Commission regarding the above named Docket may do so at these hearings. Individuals shall be permitted a maximum of three (3) minutes for oral presentations. To testify as a public witness, you must print your name legibly on the Sign-In Sheet available at the hearing location and indicate that you wish to testify. All testimony will be given under oath and entered into the record of the case, subject to objection by the parties.

Please note that the commissioners will be present to listen to your testimony and statements regarding the above named Docket; however, the Code of Judicial Conduct prohibits the commissioners from answering questions regarding the above named Docket or discussing these cases with you individually.

Persons seeking further information about the Commission's procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100 or visit its website at www.psc.sc.gov.

1/06/2020